Remarks

Status of the Claims and Support for the Amendment

In the Notice of non-Compliant Amendment, the Examiner noted that in the Amendment filed on June 6, 2007 claim 12 was identified as being as "previously amended" but carried a mark indicating the previous amendment. The marking indicating the previous amendment has been deleted. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment complies with 37. C.F.R. § 1.4 and 1.121.

Claim 1 has been amended to recite the limitation of previously pending claim 10. Claims 13 and 14 have been amended to depend from claim 1. These amendments do not add any new matter.

Claim 10 has been canceled.

Claims 1 and 11-14 are pending in this application.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph

Claims 1, 11 and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. According to the Examiner, one of skill in the art would not reasonably conclude that the Applicants were in possession of the genus of secondary plasmacytoid dendritic cell markers. Although Applicants disagree with the Examiner's rejection, the claims have been amended to recite two secondary plasmacytoid dendritic cell markers - - type 1 IFN and MXA. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment obviates the rejection.

Conclusion

It is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance. If any issues remain after entry of this Amendment, Applicants invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney by telephone.

Applicants believe that no fees are necessary for the filing of this response. However, should any fee become necessary to render this response timely filed, the Commissioner is authorized to draw the required amount from Applicants' deposit account no. 19-0365.

Respectfully submitted,

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